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instruction permit its introduction. It is highly desirable that books like those mentioned above should be given a fair trial by American teachers.

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Essentials of Biology, Presented in Problems. By GEORGE WILLIAM HUNTER.
New York: American Book Co., 1911. Pp. 448. \$1.25.

The author of this book has made "an attempt to drive home by repetition, and from many points of view, some of the important principles of physiological biology." The biological standpoint is taken throughout, and although the data are presented in the three more or less definite divisions, botany, zoölogy, and physiology, these sub-sciences are not sharply marked off from one another, and the student therefore really studies biology, and not botany, zoölogy, or human physiology. The plan is good and well carried out. After a statement of the importance of biology as a study, the environment of living things and the functions and composition of living things are explained. Chaps. iv to xiii (150 pages) deal with plants. Flowers, fruits, seeds, roots, stems, leaves, forests, reproduction, adaptation, and economic relations are some of the topics. A discussion of the relations of plants to animals is followed by the zoölogical part of the book (140 pages) beginning with the protozoa and ending with man as a type of the mammalia. The chapters devoted to human physiology (107 pages) contain a discussion of foods and dietaries, digestion, absorption, circulation, respiration, excretion, the nervous system, the sense-organs, and health and disease.

The physiological side of biology is strictly adhered to in every chapter, and common species of plants and animals of economic importance are emphasized. The various topics are introduced by special problems from Sharpe's *Laboratory Manual*. These are to be worked out in the laboratory. The text is prepared so as to clear up and fix the ideas gained by the laboratory work and to give a broader aspect to the subject. A list of reference books is appended to each chapter. The book is well supplied with good figures, but they are not numbered and are not referred to in the text. Perhaps no text is without errors, and this volume is no exception to the rule; but the errors noted by the reviewer are of minor importance.

A Laboratory Manual for the Solution of Problems in Biology. By RICHARD W. SHARPE. New York: American Book Co., 1911. Pp. 352. \$0.75.

This laboratory manual was written to accompany Hunter's *Essentials of Biology*. Directions for the solution of fifty-six problems are given. These problems are grouped under the following heads: the nature and needs of living matter (5 problems), physiological processes and adaptations in plants (16 problems), the biological interrelations of plants and animals (3 problems), the physiological unit and division of labor (2 problems), some reactions and adaptations among animals (3 problems), the most successful animals and insects, and their relation to man (3 problems), the biological relations of some aquatic forms of life (4 problems), the study of the frog as an introduction to man (2 problems), birds in their relation to man (2 problems), the human body as a machine (1 problem), foods and dietaries (3 problems), adaptations for digestion, circulation,